Application No.: NEW Docket No.: 0020-5421PUS1

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (original) A method for coloring a cellulose fiber, comprising:

a step (1) of introducing a carboxylic group or a sulfonic acid group into cellulose fiber; and a step (2) of treating the cellulose fiber having the carboxylic group or the sulfonic acid group introduced with an aromatic derivative having one or more hydroxyl groups and a metal salt simultaneously or separately.

- 2. (original) The method for coloring a cellulose fiber according to claim 1, wherein carboxylic groups are introduced into the cellulose fiber by an adhesion curing treatment with a polycarboxylic acid.
- 3. (original) The method for coloring a cellulose fiber according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the aromatic derivative having one or more hydroxyl groups is dihydroxybenzoic acid, dihydroxybenzaldehyde, trihydroxybenzoic acid, trihydroxybenzaldehyde, or tannic acid.
- 4. (currently amended) The method for coloring a cellulose fiber according to any one of claims 1 to 3 claim 1, wherein the metal salt is an iron salt.
- 5. (original) A colored cellulose fiber, colored by the method according to any one of claims 1 or 4.

2 MSW//sll

Application No.: NEW Docket No.: 0020-5421PUS1

6. (original) A method for producing a colored cellulose fiber, comprising:

a step (1) of introducing a carboxylic group or a sulfonic acid group into a cellulose fiber; and

a step (2) of treating the cellulose fiber having the carboxylic group or the sulfonic acid group introduced with an aromatic derivative having one or more hydroxyl groups and a metal salt simultaneously or separately.

- 7. (original) The method for producing a colored cellulose fiber according to claim 6, wherein carboxylic groups are introduced into the cellulose fiber by an adhesion curing treatment with a polycarboxylic acid.
- 8. (original) The method for producing a colored cellulose fiber according to claim 6 or claim 7, wherein the aromatic derivative having one or more hydroxyl groups is dihydroxybenzoic acid, dihydroxybenzaldehyde, trihydroxybenzoic acid, trihydroxybenzaldehyde, or tannic acid.
- 9. (currently amended) The method for producing a colored cellulose fiber according to any one of claims 6 to 8 claim 6, wherein the metal salt is an iron salt.
- 10. (currently amended) A colored cellulose fiber, produced by the method according to any one of claims 6 to 9 claim 6.